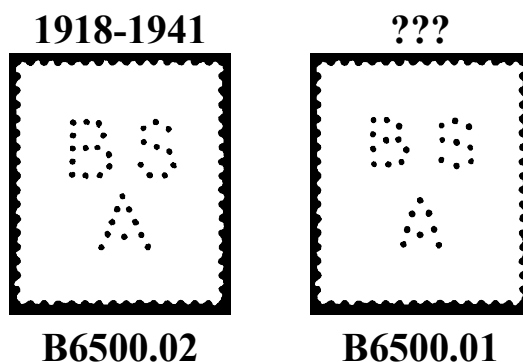


“BOY SCOUT ASSOCIATION” PERFINS

Roy Gault

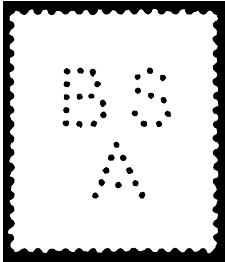
A Google search for “W. O. Hawkins” on another matter led me to the website of ‘Scouts on Stamps Society International’ (www.sossi.org), and their title page ‘British Scout Perfins’. The brief, but interesting, details recorded there can now be amplified with what we currently know, and hopefully even further with your collective input.

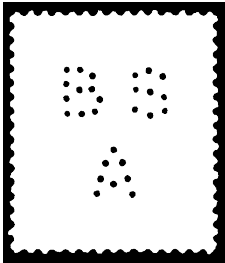
Most people are aware that the ‘Boy Scouts’ movement was started by Robert Baden-Powell (in 1907). In fact, the ‘Boy Scout Association’, with their headquarters at 114-116 Victoria St, London SW, was reformed soon after in 1910. However, in June 1917 they moved to new headquarters at 25 Buckingham Palace Road, London SW, which is an appropriate point to introduce the topic of Perfins.



Two perfins are known to have been made for use by the ‘Boy Scout Association’. Both were produced by J Sloper & Co Ltd. The earlier die is relatively easy to come by and appears to date from the time of the move to their new headquarters in 1917. The earliest date I have on record from a loose stamp is the 10th September 1918. Sadly, this single headed die was almost certainly destroyed by the Luftwaffe in the “Blitz” on Sloper’s premises in May 1941. The replacement die (B6500.01) was also single headed, but used the now standard 4-pin high alphabet. This die would appear to be quite rare as I have no stamp details recorded for it!

Please help by looking through your collections for both of these dies and let me know of anything that is additional to what we currently know - dates, postmarks, issues, values. [See next page for details.](#)

<p>1918-1941</p>  <p>B6500.02</p>	<p>Dates: 10 Sep 1918 - 1 July 1938. Issues: I(RC) 1½d, 2d, 6d, 9d (bk) I(BC) ½d M 1½d, 3d, 1/- Q ½d, 1½d, 2½d, 3d Note: Sloper single headed die, destroyed in 1941. Ident: Boy Scout Association, 25 Buckingham Palace Rd, London SW1. Pmks: Lo(ndon).</p>
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<p>???</p>  <p>B6500.01</p>	<p>Dates: Issues: Note: Sloper single headed die. Ident: Boy Scout Association, 25 Buckingham Palace Rd, London SW1. Pmks:</p>
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The second part to this piece involves the ‘World Scout Jubilee Jamboree’ G.B. stamps issued on the 1st August 1957. The ‘SOSI’ website lists twenty-one perfin dies that can be found on this issue, seven of which were new to the list I’ve been keeping for years. The combined total is now **49**. Apologies for publishing such a long list, *but again could I ask you to look at your collection for these dies and report any new values?* Even better if you can report any new dies!

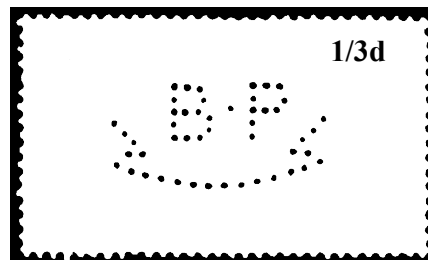
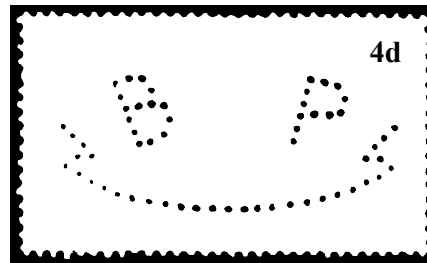
	PS Cat No.	Letters	Die in Use	2½d	4d	1/3d
1	A0830.01M	A/BROS	1930-1965	*		
2	A2720.02	A.H	1895-1960		*	
3	A5800.02M	AWG	1945-1972	*		
4	B0520.01	BBC	1939-1960		*	
5	B3300.01	BH/C	1953-1975	*		
6	B3310.01	B/HC	1945-1953	*		
7	B4860.01	BME	1954-1965	*		
8	B5616.01	BP/Curve	1957-1957	—	*	—
9	B5617.01	B.P/Curve	1957-1957	*	—	—
10	B5617.02	B.P/Curve	1957-1957	—	—	*
11	B7180.02M	B/TH	1923-1959	*		
12	C0530.02	C.B/B	1905-1965			*

	PS Cat No.	Letters	Die in Use	2½d	4d	1/3d
13	C6900.01	CS/C ^o	1939-1966			
14	C7280.01M	CSS/C ^o L ^d	1952-1965			
15	C8280.01M	C.W.	1954-1966	*		
16	D3310.01	DMS	1900-1957	*		
17	D4710.01M	DT	1945-1995			*
18	E4110.03M	ES	1920-1970	*	*	
19	F2460.01M	FL ^d	1930-1968	*		
20	F3160.01M	FP	1945-1985			*
21	G1540.01M	GE/C	1908-1993		*	
22	H0010.08	H	1940-1965	*		
23	H0730.02	H&B/L ^d	1930-1965			
24	I1510.01M	IL	1935-1985	*		
25	J4720.01	JK/&S	1920-1958	*		
26	J5360.01	J.M./HX	1930-1970			
27	J6420.01M	J.R.	1912-1975	*		
28	J7640.02	JT/&C ^o	1952-1969			*
29	K0110.01M	K.B/B	1905-1965	*	*	*
30	L0280.02	L&B	1954-1958		*	
31	L1330.01	LCT	1905-1964			
32	L3410.01M	LL	1950-1980			*
33	M1060.02M	M/C	1882-1975	*		
34	M3620.01	M.L	1915-1957	*		
35	M5860.01M	M.V/C ^o .	1920-1975		*	
36	N0360.01	NB/L	1945-1975			*
37	P3620.01M	P.P.	1920-1980	*		
38	R0010.09M	R	1938-1969	*		
39	S0590.01c	SB/C	1939-1980	*		
40	S1210.01M	SC	1944-1996	*		
41	S5740.01	S&P.	1930-1975	*		
42	S6490.01M	S.S/C	1926-1990			
43	T0370.01M	T.B.B.	1890-1968	*		
44	T1110.01	T.C.S./L ^{td} ..	1950-1957	*		
45	T1880.01	TG/C ^o	1935-1966			
46	W3450.02M	W/H	1920-1975		*	
47	W4370.01M	WILLS	1952-1985	*		
48	W5320.01	W.M/G.B	1949-1965	*		
49	W7490.01	W.T.G/M	1908-1954	*		

In the table you will note that seven dies are shown as known used on the Scouts issue, but the precise stamp details are not known. Perhaps you are lucky enough to have some of them. A point worthy of note is that one die, “K.B/B” (K0110.01M) used by Keep Bros Ltd, Export Merchants, Birmingham, is known on *all three values*. All bar two (B3310.01, and T1110.01) of the 49 have known or suspected users.

Of course the catalyst for this piece is **W O Hawkins**, and it is he who provides the link between:

- The two “BS/A” Scouting dies
- ‘J Sloper & Co Ltd’ who made the dies
- The 1957 Scouting issue
- The three ‘commemorative’ perfins



He is recorded as being the Company Secretary of J Sloper & Co Ltd for 25 years, from 1939 until 1964, and was almost certainly the prime mover behind the three ‘commemorative’ dies B5616.01, B5617.01, and B5617.02. ***But, does anyone know of his scouting connections?***

One final comment is that a ‘Boy Scouts Imperial Jamboree’ was held in 1924 in conjunction with the British Empire Exhibition at Wembley. Could it be that some commemorative stamps were perfined “BS/A” and are waiting to be discovered? If you have such a beast or know of one, I’m sure **John Nelson** would be pleased to hear from you!